

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9466

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: EAIR, JA
SUBJECT: MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (MOT) DISCUSSIONS WITH
PAN AM

REF: TOKYO 11771

1. SUMMARY: JCAB HAS ASKED PAN AM WHY IT HAD NOT ALREADY STARTED FLIGHT SERVICE ON HONOLULU - OSAKA ROUTE. PAN AM REPLIED THAT THEY HAD JUST RECEIVED PERMISSION TO FLY THIS ROUTE JULY 7 AND COULD NOT START SERVICE BEFORE OCTOBER. JCAB INDICATED THEY WANTED SERVICE TO BEGIN NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER. MEETING ENDED CORDIALLY WITH JCAB INDICATING THEY COULD SUPPORT LOW FARES IF WORKED OUT THROUGH IATA. END SUMMARY.

2. PAN AM REPRESENTATIVE WAS ASKED TO SEE MOT DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL TOMITA OF CIVIL AVIATION BUREAU JULY 7 FOR "OFFICIAL MEETING". TOMITA SAID HE WANTED TO "REGISTER A COMPLAINT" AGAINST PAN AM FOR "ASKING FOR DAILY HONOLULU- OSAKA-HONOLULU SERVICE, THEN REDUCING THE FLIGHTS TO 3 PER WEEK, AND NOW NOT FLYING ANY AT ALL". HIS BUREAU, HE SAID, HAD GONE TO A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF TROUBLE TO GET OSAKA'S AUTHORIZATION TO PERMIT WIDE-BODY AIRCRAFT TO USE
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THE OSAKA AIRPORT. HE WANTED PAN AM, THEREFORE, TO BEGIN SERVICE ASAP, BUT NOT LATER THAN SEPTEMBER.

3. PAN AM REPRESENTATIVE RESPONDED THAT THEY HAD REQUESTED PERMISSION TO BEGIN SERVICE JULY 2, BUT ONLY RECEIVED IT JULY 7. IN ADDITION, HE SAID, H. YAMADA, DIRECTOR OF MOT INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIVISION, HAD

ASKED PAN AM NOT TO PUBLICIZE THE FLIGHTS UNTIL APPROVALS
HAD BEEN ISSUED. HE SAID PAN AM'S CURRENT PLANS CALLED
FOR REGULAR SERVICE TO BEGIN IN OCTOBER, AFTER ADVANCE
PUBLICITY HAD CHANCE TO BE EFFECTIVE, BUT THAT HE WOULD
SEE WHAT HE COULD DO TO HAVE THEM BEGIN EARLIER.

4. MEETING ENDED ON CORDIAL NOTE, PAN AM REP INDICATED,
WITH TOMITA REMARKING THAT GOJ APPROVES LOW FARES IF
WORKED OUT THROUGH IATA FORUM. HE ALSO SAID HE HOPED NEXT
U.S.-JAPAN BILATERALS WOULD SETTLE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN
THE TWO COUNTRIES.

5. COMMENT: AFTER STRONG MOT REPRESENTATIONS TO OSAKA
AUTHORITIES TO APPROVE WIDE-BODIED AIRCRAFT USE AT
OSAKA AIRPORT, MOT MAY FEAR THAT IT WILL LOOK BAD IF
FOREIGN CARRIERS DO NOT IMMEDIATELY USE FACILITIES THEY
WERE PORTRAYED AS WANTING SO BADLY.
MANSFIELD

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NNN

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